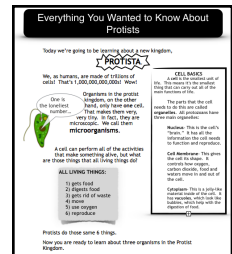


# Suggestions for Use

- Read the first page titled "Everything You Wanted to Know About Protists" together as a class. You could have students read in partners or 'popcorn read'--this is where one student reads a certain amount of text then says "POPCORN TO..." and can call on any student with their hand up to read the next amount of text.



- After building this background together, students could read about each type of protist and fill in the graphic organizer. This will help guide their comprehension and make comparisons about each microorganism.
- You could also assign students to groups to read about one type of protist, then create a presentation to share what they learned with the class.
  - Students could be grouped by counting off by threes (the protists are numbered—1. Amoeba 2. Paramecium 3. Euglena)
  - You could also have students "pick a card" to determine their groupings. Just print the grouping cards, cut out, put in a bin, and let students pick.

Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert
Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert
Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert
Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert
Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert
Amoeba Aficionado	Paramecium Pro	Euglena Expert

- Or you could set up rotations, where students read about one protist, fill out the chart, then move to a different designated spot in your room to read about the next.
- To help complete the graphic organizer (and motivate students) have them go to each website listed to learn more.
- If you have access to a student server, you could save this file there so that students could easily click on the websites.

# Like What You See?

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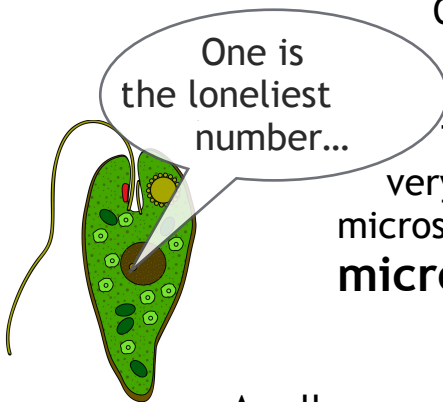


# Everything You Wanted to Know About Protists

Today we're going to be learning about a new kingdom,

## PROTISTA.

We, as humans, are made of trillions of cells! That's 1,000,000,000,000s! Wow!



One is the loneliest number...

Organisms in the protist kingdom, on the other hand, only have **one** cell. That makes them very, very tiny. In fact, they are microscopic. We call them **microorganisms**.

A cell can perform all of the activities that make something alive, but what are those things that all living things do?

### ALL LIVING THINGS:

- 1) get food
- 2) digest food
- 3) get rid of waste
- 4) move
- 5) use oxygen
- 6) reproduce

Protists do those same 6 things.

Now you are ready to learn about three organisms in the Protist Kingdom.

### CELL BASICS

A **cell** is the smallest unit of life. This means it's the smallest thing that can carry out all of the main functions of life.

The parts that the cell needs to do this are called **organelles**. All protozoans have three main organelles:

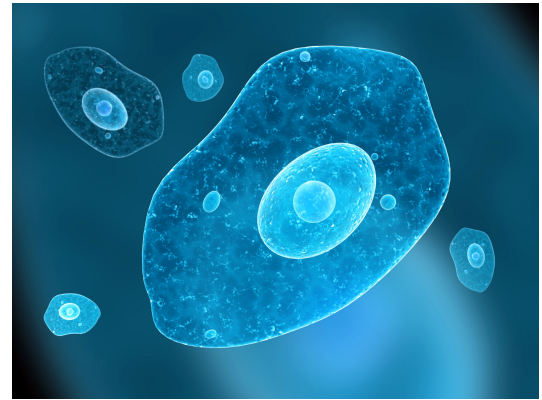
**Nucleus**- This is the cell's "brain." It has all the information the cell needs to function and reproduce.

**Cell Membrane**- This gives the cell its shape. It controls how oxygen, carbon dioxide, food and waters move in and out of the cell.

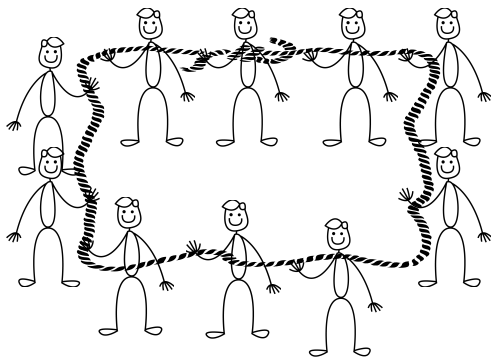
**Cytoplasm**- This is a jelly-like material inside of the cell. It has **vacuoles**, which look like bubbles, which help with the digestion of food.

# 1. Amoeba

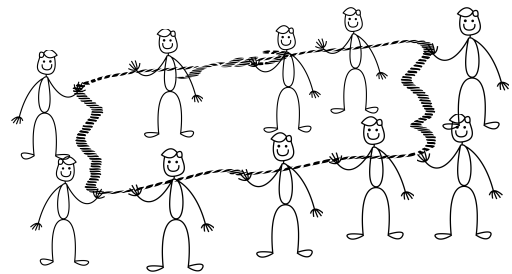
The picture shows an amoeba. They have no definite shape. What's that mean?



Imagine 10 students standing in a circle, with a rope tied around them:



Now, imagine that one section of the circle starts walking in one direction. What happens to the shape?



If the rope is tight, the other people will have to move if one side moves. This is how an amoeba moves - one side is pushed out and then the other follows.

When one side of the amoeba moves, **pseudopods** (sounds like sue-do-pods) are formed. These pseudopods help the amoeba pull in food. When they get to food, they surround it and slowly bring it into the cell. The food gets closed into a **food vacuole** and digested. Waste exits through a vacuole. The amoeba keeps moving and its waste is left behind.

How does it reproduce? Two words: **binary fission**. This means they split in half.

Amoeba live in fresh water, salt water, damp soil, and in the bodies of other animals.

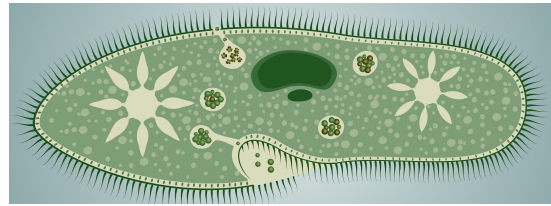
Visit these websites to find out more:

➔ <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/protists/amoeba.shtml>

➔ <http://www.mcwdn.org/Animals/Ameba.html>



## 2. Paramecium

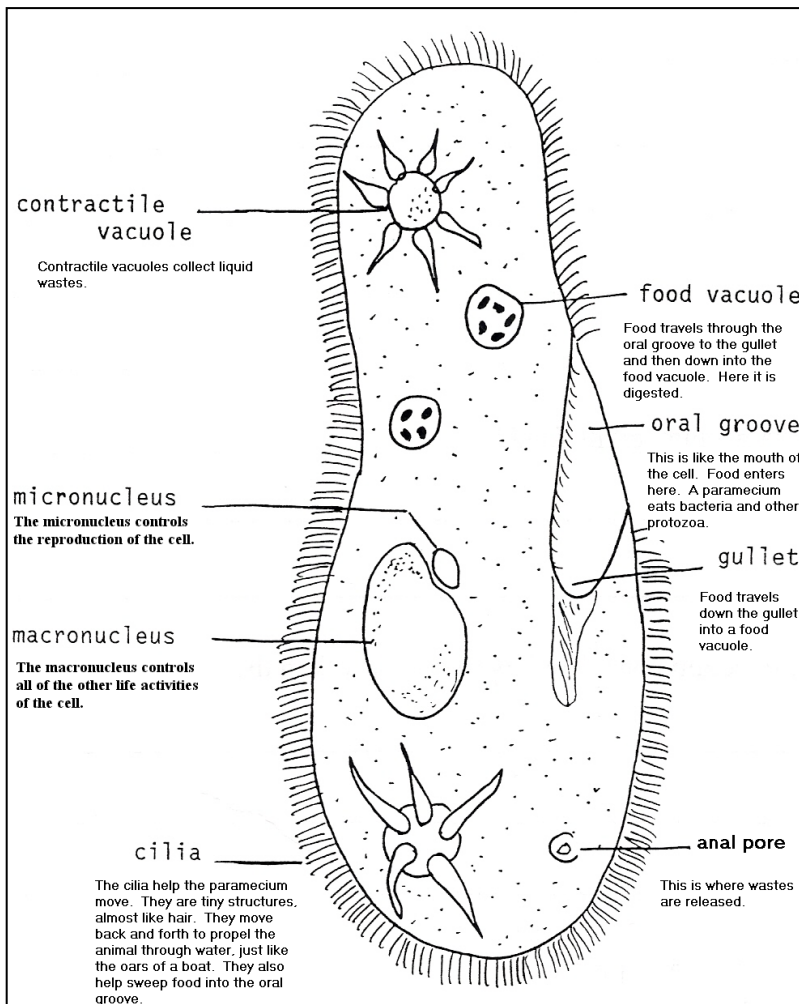


The picture shows a paramecium. Do you notice any difference from the amoeba? Unlike amoeba, paramecium have a definite shape.

Paramecium is actually sometimes called the “slipper paramecium” because it is shaped like the sole of a shoe.



Parameciums have 2 nuclei (that’s the plural form of nucleus). Let’s look at what these and the other organelles do in a paramecium.



Whew! That’s a lot of information. Now you should know how a paramecium eats, gets rid of wastes, moves, and performs its other life functions. Just like an amoeba, a paramecium reproduces through binary fission.

Paramecium live in water. If you look at a drop of pond water, you may find some.

**Visit these websites to find out more:**

➔ [www.mcwdn.org/Animals/Paramecium.html](http://www.mcwdn.org/Animals/Paramecium.html)

➔ [www.microscope-microscope.org/applications/pond-critters/protozoans/ciliphora/paramecium.htm](http://www.microscope-microscope.org/applications/pond-critters/protozoans/ciliphora/paramecium.htm)



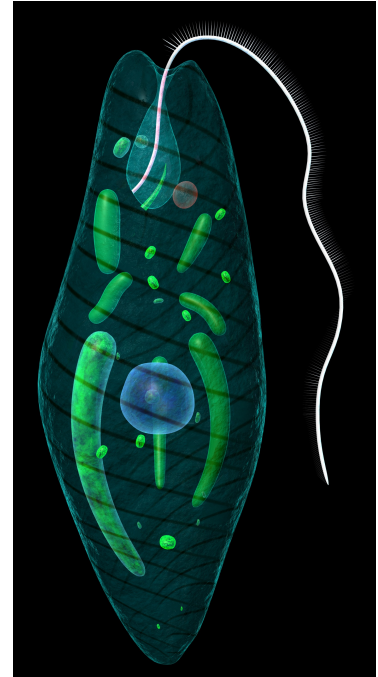
(c) Sarah Sewer

### 3. Euglena

From this picture you can observe a couple of different things about euglena. First of all, it can be green. This is because it contains **chloroplasts** which have **chlorophyll**, just like plants. This means that euglena can make its own food.

You may be thinking that that doesn't sound like an animal characteristic. And you're right. Euglenas actually have traits of both plants and animals.

Even though it can make its own food, euglena can actually move to food too. To do this, it uses a **flagellum**. This is the string attached to the animal that looks like a tail.



Near the tail you can see a hole. That is the euglena's mouth. When they ingest (take in) food, they store it in vacuoles. Then they release their waste through another vacuole sack.

The blue eyespot near this hole is actually the nucleus. Just like in the other cells, this is the control center for the whole cell.

Like the amoeba and paramecium, euglena reproduce through binary fission.

They typically live in fresh water or soil, from which they can take oxygen.

Visit these websites  
to find out more:



- ➔ [www.mcwdn.org/Animals/Euglena.html](http://www.mcwdn.org/Animals/Euglena.html)
- ➔ <http://www.britannica.com/science/Euglena>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** While reading about each PROTIST, fill in the graphic organizer to show how it fulfills the characteristic of a living thing.

<b>Name of Protist:</b>			
Gets food			
Digests food			
Gets rid of waste			
Moves			
Oxygen			
Reproduces			